The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 24. CHICAGO, TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1871 NO. 167.

WASHINGTON.

Proceedings in Congress Yesterday.

Four of the Georgia Representatives Take Their Seats.

The Time of the Senate Spent on the Dayton Military Asylum Bill.

More San Domingo Correspondence to be Sent in To-Day.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.

SAN DOMINGO CORRESPONDENCE.

The President will to-day comply with Mr. Sumner's resolution for information respecting San Domingo. In addition to the letter of the Secretary of State, are copies of all papers and correspondence relating to the proposed annexation, or purchase of any part thereof. The Secretary says that all correspondence in the Department tend to show that should President Baez fail to annex Dominica to the United States, the popular disappointment in the Island would be great. He has by no means final evidence that annexation which Dominica is anxious to the neighboring Republic of Haiti is under to the establishing Republic of Haiti is under the control of Great Britain, and suggestions will be shown in the confidential papers transmitted.

SITUATION WANTED—LADIES OR GIRLS.

SITUATION WANTED—MALE.

SITUATION WANTED—BY AN EXPERIENCED

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.

THE LINCOLN STATUE.

The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a communication of Mr. Brown, proposing to present to the United States the statue to be executed by Story, and offered to the State of Illinois by Vinnie Ream.

Mr. EDMUNDS, from the Committee on Finance, reported, favorably, Lowndes's bill providing pensions of soldiers and widows, and children and orphans of soldiers.

OWNERSHIP BILL.

Mr. CONKLING introduced a bill to amend the construction of twenty or more first-class iron steamships, capable of carrying mails, with machinery, boilers, engines, etc., to be built in the United States, and of the same kind owned by the United States.

ON MOTION OF Mr. LEWIS, the Senate resumed consideration of the bill to admit the State of Virginia to representation in Congress.

The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a communication of the Governor of Virginia, transmitting the ordinance of the Convention of that State ratifying the fifteenth amendment.

Mr. HARLAN presented a petition of citizens of Nebraska, praying for the passage of the bill to extend the time for the completion of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Mr. SHERMAN explained that the bill was intended to confer upon the Supreme Court of Ohio, in which some three or four hundred cases of contested election are pending, the power to hear and decide the same, and otherwise eligible to vote, were not disqualified by reason of the decision of the Judges of the district referred to as a shock to the moral sense of the community.

Mr. SHERMAN defended the decision referred to as having been rendered by able, honorable and incorruptible Judges, and regarded the institution of the proceedings as a gross violation of the charity shown to the Baron Rodney House, and pri-vacy of the decision which had been rendered by the Judges in the performance of their duty in the case. Mr. Thurman, of Ohio, had been elected to the Senate by a majority

The Chicago Tribune.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1871.

HER RED APPROACHING.

Seventy miles southward of Paris the French are defeated at Bapaume, a hundred miles northward of Paris Gen. Chanzy is driven from Le Mans, by Prince Frederick Charles, with a loss of 16,000 prisoners, after one of the most gallant struggles of the war; and nearly as far to the eastward of Paris Bourbaki's skirmishing toward the Vosges Mountains, with the alleged intent of forming a diversion and unless reinforced, with the certainty of being driven into Switzerland. Meanwhile, at the centre of operations, the Germans are making visible, and even rapid, progress. The assurances of three weeks ago, that the Germans could not bombard Paris, yield to the fact that a third of the city is now under fire, and that the French Government is able only to answer with its ineffectual protest, against the inhumanity of the bombardment. At least one-half the fighting forces of France are now gathered up within the walls of Paris. The sharp-witted enemy has made Paris the objective point of the German campaign. Nothing is more difficult than to arrest the attention and numbers of any of the French forces that were under Trochu are variously reported at from 120,000 to 200,000 men. Though they have prolonged to four months a resistance which it was at first supposed could not last two, and though, in the meantime, France has proven much more resistance in improvising new forces, yet the unexpected defeats of Faidherbe, Chanzy, and Bourbaki, and the evident distress of Trochu, show that all these efforts have been abstractly greeted and hopeless. In the mere military sense, France is struggling against a force greater in number and better armed and disciplined than her own, and is at a disadvantage in the possession of the railroads of the country, which the enemy has become expert in using for the movement of troops and supplies. Meanwhile, the enemy has been placed *hors de combat* in a campaign of six months' duration. And the surrender of Paris, we believe, cannot now be postponed more than two weeks.

After this event, France will still have left a fighting capacity of, say, 250,000 men. But such a force, against the Germans, would be capable of mere guerilla warfare, and, very soon, the laws of guerilla warfare would be applied to them. It is intimated that the requisite will be offered to the people of Belgium to serve as "French Flanders" in compensation for Alsace will be invited to make peace on these terms, and, if it refuses, the war will be continued with the expectation that the French people, when they feel thoroughly re-established in power under the Empress and the Prince Imperial. In any event, but especially in that of the establishment of a regency, France must remain for years a *quasi* dependency of the great German Empire. Wilhelm and Bismarck will reign practically from the Bay of Biscay to the Baltic Sea, and will have all the German war expenditure, which will be long after the Prince Imperial has attained his majority.

If we bear in mind that, during Napoleon's whole reign, France has been bankrupt—that its annual expenditures, always kept, by the simple expedient of annulling its debts under him, generally exceeded its revenue by $75,000,000; that its finances were in such confusion that its Treasurer could not state the amount of the debt than the Emperor could state the number of his troops—it must be evident that the ability of France to pay the German indemnity debt, in addition to her present debt, will depend on her finances being systematically placed under Prussian supervision. It matters little whether this is done immediately, or whether the amount of the debt is merely stipulated as the liability of the regency or the republic to pay it is left to be demonstrated in the future. In either case, Germany must emerge from the war the owner of a first mortgage upon the entire industry of France, which the latter country, under French management, is more than unlikely to be able to repay. In any point of view the situation involves the germs of a future protectorate of Germany over France—a protectorate of which the people of no man can predict the end. It cannot be without deep, farreaching effects upon the national character of the two races, that the great nations of the French with the German people, which characterizes this war, are now at last at an end. While their governments are at war, the two races never were more fraternal. In nearly every German home a French soldier is quartered, in place of the German boy who is fighting with "our Fritz," assisting the fall of Paris, or who, perhaps, is among the heaps in the valley of the Loire, or the unmarked graves of Gravelotte. This striking fact cannot but exert its influence.

We are informed, by those who know well the temper of German society, that if a vote were taken to-day among the German people, as to whether the war should stop, absolutely without any cession of territory whatever, they would vote it to stop. The French find their mildest terms of peace written in the German heart. Whether Bismarck grant them or not, the result is to be a peace between the two races based upon a better understanding of each other, and which we may, therefore, hope will be permanent.

THE BANAL BUSINESS.

A writer in the Cincinnati *Gazette* proposes, as the best and most certain mode of following Chicago and transferring our commerce to that city, to build a canal, or ship railway, from Lake Erie to the Ohio River, which, if made free, and under public control, or to prevent combinations, would regulate the rates on all transporting railways as completely as it could be done by canals. A double track railway from Chicago to New York, with connecting branches to Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, and Portland, would serve as a model. Such a road, if made free, and under public control, would serve as a security to regulate the cost of transportation, and would cost less to construct it and keep it in repair.

NOT DEAD YET.

The world narrowly escaped a great bereavement, a few days ago, when Queen Victoria was said to be going out all her Polish prisoners in a body. Fear of all things which the world of to-day does not newspaper news in the most precious and magnificent; and, of all fruitful topics for newspaper paragraphs, telegraphic and otherwise, the fate of a Polish exile is the rarest, vaunting it "British hospitality" the most prolific. If it was not a telegram by cable concerning the actions, sayings or opinions of one of the prisoners themselves, it was the proceedings of some public meeting "in favor of the Polish exiles," or some well-dressed (and long-drawn) resolutions sympathy to adopt, with special reference to the Fenian vote. If neither of these topics swelled the strain, it was a speech of some New York politician, or a telegram from G. F. Train. Among them all there various *natural sequels* to constituted upon, each morning, for something or other about the Fenian prisoners.

And now comes that obstinate woman, Victoria, and, with one stroke of her royal prerogative, pardons the whole lot, and stamps to the whole census of "Poles" in fame, resolutions, etc., to date. The joy of Victoria is thwarted, and the supply of Fenian sensations is illegally cut off. Fortunately, McAlpine, by name, has refused to accept his pardon, satisfied, as he doubtless is, that he can maintain a happier state of captivity, as a martyr of the Bastile, than as any other vocation within his reach. And even had McAlpine decided to pay for his own board hereafter, the newsmongers were not to be thwarted in the matter, for political casuaries have already begun to pass resolutions of sympathy for the prisoners on *their* accession to the throne. Next will follow doubtless resolutions of sympathy on their continued state of being at large. These can be followed up and repeated *ad libitum*, varied with condolences for McAlpine; and when they have run through, why, then, the other fellows can get in jail again.

THE SOUTH.

The second-class newspapers of Chicago seem to be greatly agitated relative to the position of THE TRIBUNE toward General Logan, during the recent contest for the Senatorship. One of them, which denounces the newly-nominated Senator by all the epithets in its vile vocabulary, gives THE TRIBUNE the credit of having brought about his election by its support; another, which opposed Logan, but is now reconciled to his election to save appearances, thinks the city's foundations must be dug away in order to develop that means of sentiment necessary to be—gold!

Gold, gas, gore, gas.
Bright and yellow, hard and cold,

which has been, since the war, enormous loads right under the heart of the city. The sunflower veins have been struck repeatedly by a couple of well-digging Pontiacs, and the "Pontiac" vein is now the richest. Instead of throwing up nuggets with their spades that they rocked not the incident, any more than Shakspeare's grave-digger minded the toss of a skull. They dug on, and, at length, however, coming upon a particularly large chunk, they casually mentioned the subject, and now all Peoria is agog with the several. Not a man, woman or child in the population of all householders, since it has been discovered that gold, like this froth of which it is the type, "has at the bottom of a well." The "Pontiac" vein is the "Taylor" lead at the bottom of *their* well, and that the almost precious metal may turn out to be only a closer imitation of the same on the part of nature, concerning which the Peorians, like all miners say, Let us hope, however, that all that glitters in Taylors' well may prove to be real gold, and that Peoria may henceforth be entitled to count her dollar by dollar, to do business on a gold basis.

The wind which blew so much snow to Chicago on Sunday was not, after all, a very ill wind, since it blew to the knowledge of many citizens an important and valuable fact, viz., the necessity of fencing sidewalks. It is well not now indeed upon that theory) are made with legs intended by nature for purposes of locomotion. The discovery was a startling one, and many personal observers, living chiefly in the West Division; and so ready is the American mind, and especially the Chicago mind, to take advantage of known facts, that the sales of fencing amount to five now that it did in 1865. They have not been able to purchase any more of the essentials of life with their wages than when Grant was before Richmond. On the contrary, the additional duties levied in the Tariff act of that year increased the cost of nearly all of them, and the high prices, though the war closed five years ago.

A reduction of wages, without a reduction of the cost of living, would result in the impoverishment of those people, and yet that has been the result in respect to the chances. Notwithstanding the reduction in the price of cotton, the foreign manufacturer even now competes with the home manufacturer, who is borne down by the excessive cost of all other items that make up the cost of production. He finds no relief in the tariff, since he has on the improvement of his machinery; for a few cents additional per yard in the way of protection on his cotton cloth, he has been obliged to tax himself $1.40 per ton on his coal, and 100 per cent on his machinery, and upon the cost of his repairs.

The tax on cotton manufactures is in keeping with the tax on most of the other articles of consumption. During the last six years the cost of wool has been reduced in all parts of the world. Never has the production and variety been so abundant, and every nation outside of the United States has been enjoying the luxury of cheap wool and cheap woollen fabrics. But we have a tax on wool which shuts us out of the cheap markets. We have mills in the United States for the manufacture of the finer cloths, whose wealth and most perfect machinery stands idle, year after year, because the privileges of importing the needed proportion of foreign wool to mix with the domestic. Though the price of wool has fallen, the worldover, our fat-gatherer demands the tax, not of 90, or 60, or 10 per cent, but so much per pound—so much what may be the value of the wool itself.

Congress has it in its power, by an act of a dozen lines, to increase the wages, increase the manufacturing production, and indeed the total prosperity of the people under him; generally amended in the year of 1870, 000,000; that its finances were in such confusion that its Treasurer could not state the amount of the debt than the Emperor could state the number of his troops. It must be evident that the ability of France to pay the German indemnity debt, in addition to her present debt, will depend on her finances being systematically placed under Prussian supervision. It matters little whether this is done immediately, or whether the amount of the debt is merely stipulated as the liability of the regency or the republic to pay it is left to be demonstrated in the future. In either case, Germany must emerge from the war the owner of a first mortgage upon the entire industry of France, which the latter country, under French management, is more than unlikely to be able to repay. In any point of view the situation involves the germs of a future protectorate of Germany over France—a protectorate of which the people of no man can predict the end. It cannot be without deep, farreaching effects upon the national character of the two races, that the great nations of the French with the German people, which characterizes this war, are now at last at an end. While their governments are at war, the two races never were more fraternal. In nearly every German home a French soldier is quartered, in place of the German boy who is fighting with "our Fritz," assisting the fall of Paris, or who, perhaps, is among the heaps in the valley of the Loire, or the unmarked graves of Gravelotte. This striking fact cannot but exert its influence.

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FIRE-STORIES.

Grand Street Colossal—James Fisk, Jr.—The First Offered to Congress—The Colossal men a Wonder.

To the Editor of the Tribune.

SIR: In your issue of this morning, under the heading of "Not for Josh," you say my self-willed Board of Directors "will not say one word in explanation of the cause of the burning of the Grand Street Hotel." Very true, sir, I will not say one word in explanation of the cause, for I do not know it. I will say, however, that I am not responsible for the conflagration, and that I have not been since the 1st day of October, 1870, the owner of a dollar of property connected with the Grand Street Hotel. I will say, further,

COMMON COUNCIL.

The Question of the City Deposits Again Received.

How to "Investigate" a Ridiculous Constable.

Sleeping Warm at Lincoln Park.

A regular meeting of the Common Council was held last evening, President Heinen in the chair. All the members were present except Aldermen Kimberly, Cregier, Dexter, Bradley, Throop, Holmes, Hoyne, Wentworth, Ward, Powell, Hesing, Wheeler, Wright, Conway, Hunt, Mann, Wilson, Sexton, Scholfield, Cleaver, Bradley, Rehberger, Cullerton, Schaffner, Cremer, Hoffman, Hildebrand, Ryan, Cochrane, and the Deputy Assistant Comptroller of Accounts.

A communication was received from the Board of Public Works, requesting the Council to appropriate $5,000 to pay for the Milwaukee avenue sewer, now under construction, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

A communication was received from Edward Z. Loring, relative to using the Cragin & Pullman tax bill, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

A communication was received from Ald. Throop, stating that the Council had ordered an appropriation of $5,000 for the relief of DEPUTIES AT CHRISTMAS TIME, and that the Mayor had refused to sign the bill, and requesting the passage of the same.

Ald. Throop said the Mayor's reason for refusing to sign the bill was that the Council would be afraid that some other officers would want a similar appropriation at Christmas time.

Ald. Wright moved to pass the bill over the Mayor's veto.

Ald. Throop said that the Council should not intimate a fear. If the Mayor, Comptroller, and Corporation Counsel thought that the appropriation was proper, the Council could legislate them.

Ald. Wright said that the Mayor's veto went through by the Mayor appointing a man of his political faith to the Corporation Counsel's office, and he considered that one of more than ordinary importance, and he would stand for the appointment of the Corporation Counsel, and would not accept the office unless he was allowed to get rid of the obstacle himself. He was willing to get rid of the obstacle himself. He was willing to get rid of the obstacle himself. He was willing